

Message Text

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12

ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 AF-06 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-01 INR-07

L-02 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

USIA-06 NIC-01 SAM-01 SAJ-01 IO-10 /076 W

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R 020744Z JAN 75

FM AMEMBASSY LISBON

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1346

INFO AMEMBASSY MADRID

AMCONSUL LUANDA

AMCONSUL LOURENCO MARQUES

AMCONSUL OPORTO

AMCONSUL PONTA DELGADA

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EO 11652: N/A

TAGS: PINT, PO

SUBJ: PORTUGUESE COMMUNIST PARTY FIRST PARTY TO LEGALIZE ITSELF
UNDER NEW LAW ON POLITICAL PARTIES

REF: LISBON 4717

1. PORTUGUESE COMMUNIST PARTY HAS BECOME FIRST PORTUGUESE
POLITICAL PARTY TO LEGALIZE ITSELF UNDER RECENTLY PASSED LAW
ON POLITICAL PARTIES (REFTEL). CITED LAW ESTABLISHES THAT IN
ORDER TO PARTICIPATE IN UPCOMING ELECTIONS A PARTY MUST OBTAIN
A MINIMUM OF 5,000 SIGNATURES FROM MEMBERS OF ADHERENTS ALONG
WITH ACCOMPANYING DOCUMENTATION ATTESTING TO FACT THAT
SIGNATORS ENJOY FULL CIVIL AND POLITICAL RIGHTS. PCP
PRESENTED 13 VOLUMES CONTAINING 6,145 SIGNATURES TO SUPREME
COURT ON DECEMBER 26, AND ARE THEREBY EXPECTED TO BE FIRST
PARTY TO LEGALLY QUALIFY TO PARTICIPATE IN ELECTIONS.

2. COMMENT: IT IRONIC THAT PCP, ILLEGAL FOR OVER 50 YEARS,
SHOULD BECOME FIRST PORTUGUESE PARTY TO BECOME TECHNICALLY
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LEGAL. OTHER MAJOR PARTIES SUCH AS PPD, PS, CDS, AND PERHAPS

MONARCHISTS (PPM) AND MRPP EXPECTED TO HAVE NO DIFFICULTY IN
OBTAINING REQUIRED 5,000 SIGNATURES. HOWEVER, SYMBOLICALLY PCP
HAS SCORED A PROPAGANDA VICTORY BY BEATING THE OTHERS TO THE
SUPREME COURT, AND HAS UNDERScoreD A POINT IT CONSTANTLY WISHES
TO REITERATE, I.E., THAT IT IS A LEGAL, RESPONSIBLE ORGANIZATION
WHICH POPULACE SHOULD NOT FEAR.
SCOTT

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